The People's Korea

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French Official Indicates Major Change in French Policy on Korea

Paris is considering a review of its Korean policy and cancellation of a nuclear reactor export to Seoul, an associate of President Mitterrand said in Tokyo on May 17.

This was the first comment on Korean policy ever made by a Socialist official since the victory of Mr. Mitterrand.

So far, no hint was given of what policy the new French government and the socialist president would take toward Korea.

Mr. Daniel Mayer, President of the International Human Rights League was speaking at the second-day session of the Emergency World Assembly for South Korean Democracy held in Tokyo from May 16 through May 19. (See the previous issue of The People's Korea)

Mr. Mayer is a special advisor to President Mitterrand and former Secretary of the French Socialist Party.

He reportedly made a large role in mapping out Mitterrand's campaign programme. During the campaign, Mr. Mitterrand made clear his strong opposition to relations with any kind of junta or authoritarian regime, no matter how pro-Western, and in particular to arms sale to those nations.

In this case, a major rift will appear in the Reagan administration's attempt to maintain a common policy on Korea.

Foreign observers here regard Mr. Mayer's statement as indicating a change in the conduct of French foreign policy on Korea as a whole and as a possible establishment of diplomatic relations between Pyongyang and Paris.

In November last, a contract was reached between France and south Korea that France will export nuclear reactors used for south Korean No. 9 and No. 10 nuclear-power plants to be completed by 1986.

The south Korean junta of Gen. Chon has felt keen jitters, afraid of an adverse effect on its relations with Paris.

The south Koreans have been under heavy pressure from Western countries for their undemocratic policy and most recently for the political trial of democratic leader Kim Dae Jung.

1,000 Koryo Univ. Students Call for Ouster of Chon Du Hwan

Over 1,000 students of Koryo University, prestigious private school in Seoul, staged an anti-"government" demonstration on May 20, marching, singing and scattering leaflets calling for democratic reforms, reports reaching here from Seoul said.

At first, nearly 500 students started their protest demonstration with the number gradually increased to 1,000, one witness was quoted as saying.

The protestors gathered in front of the school library building, and began marching on the campus, singing school songs.

The students demanded the release of jailed student activists, the establishment of democracy and ouster of Gen. Chon Du Hwan.

Their action promptly invited a tear-gas attack of several hundred riot police.

Less than 10 students were arrested, according to witnesses.

Eyewitnesses revealed that students of Seoul National University held a rally on May 13 on their campuses, denouncing the junta of Gen. Chon. They were said to have scattered anti-"government" handbills.

Students of Tongguk University in Seoul reportedly on May 6 distributed anti-"government" leaflets on their campus, appealing to their fellow students to join their campaign. Two hundred students received handbills.

These reports had been kept in the dark due to the strict black-out.

The authorities arrested three Seoul National University students on charges of leading the rally and two Tongguk University students for having scattering leaflets.

12,000 Koreans Here Hold Rally To Mark 1st Anniv. of Kwangju Uprising

Over, 12,000 Korean nationals in Japan on May 21 held a rally to mark the first anniversary of the heroic popular uprising in Kwangju and urged the whole world to remember "the Kwangju Massacre."

At the rally, Mr. Li Jin Gyu, one of the Vice-Chairmen of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) stressed that the Kwangju uprising was a patriotic and heroic popular uprising of south Korean people against the junta of Gen. Chon Du Hwan and for freedom and democracy. He held the United States responsible for the bloody incident there.

He also urged the Japanese authorities to stop bolstering up the Chon junta.

Mr. Vice-Chairman called upon the participants to stage a more vigorous campaign to support the south Korean people for democracy and to reunify the Korean Peninsula by forming a bi-system confederation.

After the rally, all the participants staged a demonstration march, chanting "Remember Kwangju!," "Down with Chon Junta!" and "Against U.S.-Japan-South Korean Military Alliance."

Similar rallies were held in Kobe, Nagoya, Hiroshima, Fukuoka and other local areas.

After the rally, all the participants staged a demonstration downtown Tokyo calling upon the Japanese public to support Koreans' campaign for south Korean democracy and the country's reunification.

In Pyongyang

A Pyongyang mass rally was held on May 17 in commemoration of the first anniversary of the heroic popular uprising in Kwangju.

It was attended by 100,000 working people and students in the capital. They marched through streets to the Kim Il Sung Square, denouncing the Chon Du Hwan junta who murdered south Korean students, youngsters and citizens.

They bitterly criticized the U.S.'s actions in manipulating the Kwangju massacre behind the scene.

Mr. Yun Gi Bok, one of the Secretaries of the WPK Central Committee, spoke at the mass rally.

30 Roman Catholic Priests Stage Hunger Strike

About 30 Roman Catholic priests, including a Bishop named Yun Gong Hui, staged a hunger strike in Kwangju from May 18 through May 21, calling for a disclosure of the truth about the Kwangju incident and the release of those still held in connection with last May's general uprising in the southern provincial capital.

Church sources said that the hunger strike began after a special prayer session was held at the Namdong Cathedral on the evening of May 18 to mark the first anniversary of the heroic uprising.

About 2,000 people, including families of the prisoners, residents, priests and nuns, attended the service.

At the mass, the priests issued a statement, damanding the unconditional and immediate release of those held in prison for their involvement in the uprising.

The statement also stated that rebellion was prompted by atrocities by troops in crushing the student demonstration and repeated the demands made by the fasting priests.

The statement called upon the authorities to pay appropriate compensation to the families of those killed by paratroopers and to the injured.

It strongly held that the professors and students banned from their campuses for their involvement in the uprising should be reinstated.

Families of Imprisoned Hold Sit-Down at American Cultural Center

Families of those imprisoned for their participation in the uprising held a sit-down on May 21 in the American Cultural Center in Kwangju.

Families of the imprisoned, mostly women and students, held a sit-down for 13 hours until they were taken away by police.

They called for the release of the imprisoned and observance of the nine-day anniversarry as a time of remembrance of those killed in the uprising.

Meanwhile, Mr. Kim Dae Jung, 56, and 12 other imprisoned for groundless charges are believed to be in bad shape physically after a year in prison, the Tokyo-based English-language paper Asahi Evening News said in its May 18 issue.

The former "presidential" candidate, the paper wrote, was suffering from ringing in the ears and lack of appetite when his wife visited him in prison May 12.

S. Korean Fishermen Interviewed by Pyongyang Reporters

Crewmen of the south Korean fishing boat Namjim No. 2 said that the northern half of the DPRK is quite different from what they heard about in south Korea. They recalled that those who had suffered from various diseases were given medical treatment free of charge and fully restored their health in the DPRK. They claimed that they were accorded a treatment worthy of human being for the first time in their life.

The ship was captured by a naval patrol boat of the Korean People's Army while illegally intruding into the territorial waters of the DPRK on Sep. 8 last year, were interviewed by reporters on May 14 prior to their departure. (See details of the interview on page 2)

They said that they could no longer endure sufferings caused by the tragic national split which keeps families and relatives separated in north and south Korea and abroad. The south Koreans stressed the need for earlier reunion of the fellow countrymen.

In a farewell meeting which took place on Wonsan Wharf on May 19, Han Jae Jung, purser of the Namjim No. 2, extended deep thanks to the DPRK Government for leniently treating and according them a hospitality overflowing with kindred sentiments, far from punishing them for their illegal intrusion into coastal waters of the DPRK.

Crewmen of the Namjim No. 2 left Wonsan on the afternoon of May 19.

Inchon Film Picketed

About 45 American demonstrators picketed the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. on the evening of May 4 to protest the premiere showing of "Inchon," a $46-million movie made with financial backing from the fanatical Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church.

The protestors, carrying printed and homemade signs criticizing Moon's religious sect, marched near the entrance to the center's Eisenhower Theater as patrons arrived for the benefit screening.

A New York state appeals court has recently said that the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church is "inextricably interwoven with political motives" and that the sect "is attempting to cloak politics and economics with the blanket of religious dogma."

The Unification Church is notorious for brainwashing American youth and for its connections with the south Korean intelligence as a front for its influence-buying operations.

5,000-10,000 Seoul Univ. Students Participate in Mar. 19 Demonstration

A correspondent of U.S. radio networks, in his article contributed to The People's Korea, disclosed that 5,000–10,000 students of Seoul National University participated in the March 19 demonstration. (See page 8)

The People's Korea originally put the figure at 1,000–2,000 based on American and Japanese press reports. Follow excerpts from his contribution:

"At this time, another student had climbed to the fifth floor of the library building. He cried out 'Overthrow Chun Doo Hwan' and other statements. At this time also, about 5,000–10,000 students had converged on the acropolis. The students began marching shoulder to shoulder to the administration building, yelling slogans against Chun and the education minister."

Care & Love of Women and Children : Medical Service

—Tour of DPRK by Hozumi Makoto, Director of Katsuhira Chuo Hospital, Japan—

A delegation of the Kanto and Tohoku District Solidarity Committee of Japan visited the DPRK from April 21 to May 1. The 17-member delegation was headed by Hozumi Makoto, director of the Katsuhira Chuo Hospital (Central Hospital), Akita City, Akita Prefecture, Japan. Dr. Hozumi contributed an article on his impression of the DPRK, and especially on its medical system, to The People's Korea. Follows his article.

Modernly-equipped delivery room with two delivery beds

I was very happy to visit socialist Korea which I had wanted to visit for a long time. During our stay there, I visited the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital and one hospital where I received acupuncture treatment, as I requested to see hospitals in Pyongyang.

As a gynecologist and as a manager and a director of a hospital, I would like to report on the facts I saw with my own eyes, and on my impression of the DPRK.

Pyongyang has five large-scale hospitals, namely the hospital attached to a university, the Red Cross Hospital, the No. 1 Hospital, the No. 2 Hospital and the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital. The maternity hospital is the newest specialist hospital among them. There are also other specialist hospitals such as dermatological, dental surgery and ear and nose hospitals.

What surprised me when I entered the hall of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital was its interior which was very different from what we were accustomed to.

Marble was used inside. It may be said that the country uses marble for most of its new buildings. Its floors, called jewel carpet, were decorated with agates and other precious stones.

The bed for mothers numbered 1,000—600 in the obstetrical section and 400 in the gynecological section—and there were 500 beds for newborn babies, 1,500 in all. It had one surgical operation room with a TV monitoring set, four round-shape surgery rooms each with a window in the ceiling through which people could see operations, and two general surgery rooms. There were four delivery rooms with two delivery beds each. Patients' rooms consisted of those for one patient, those for two patients, four patients and for five patients. They were all equipped with a lavatory and a shower room. TV sets were installed in all the rooms for one patient so that they may not feel lonely.

Consultation rooms were equipped with modern medical equipment, including ultrasonic equipment, electrocardiographs, urine and blood analyzing apparatus, X-ray therapeutic apparatus and X-ray TV sets. They were similar to those installed in first-class hospitals in Japan.

If mothers in childbed are not in good condition or seemed to be easily infected, mothers and their families can see each other through TV sets installed in the meeting room. Ten TV sets were there. This proves that the state pays deep care to mothers, babies and their families.

Newborn babies are taken care of in newborn babies' rooms.

Recently the World Gynecologists' Society has taken up the importance of mothers staying with babies in the same rooms, and of mothers giving their breasts to their babies, or of skinship between mothers and babies. The society also makes reports on how this skinship influences children's mentality, their education and the health of mothers and children. I asked doctors of the hospital about these points. They answered that they were also studying these problems, saying that they did not yet have enough materials or documents on these problems, as the hospital was new.

I also asked them about painless delivery.

When a woman become pregnant, she first goes to a clinic in each *dong* (block) of each city. Then she goes to gynecological hospital like the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital to obtain knowledge a pregnant woman needs.

Mothers bear babies in ways suited to them. The art of abdominal breathing and anesthesia with acupuncture or nitrous oxide are often practiled.

A clinic with a gynecologist is found in every *dong*. These clinics have no patients' rooms. Even ward has a hospital. Patients in serious condition or patients requiring an overall medical examination go to the hospital attached to a university or the Red Cross Hospital in Pyongyang.

With the completion of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, pregnant mothers in Pyongyang go there directly, skipping ward hospitals. As a result, gynecologists who were working at ward hospitals before, are now all at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital.

When I had a strong stomachache, I went to a hospital to receive acupuncture treatment. At the hospital, I was first asked by a woman doctor about my medical history. She wrote down my medical history in Korean, as she could understand my English and German. She also measured my blood pressure. After that, she took me to an old acupuncturist. He acupuncturated at a spot in my feet where moxa is usually burnt to cure foot fatigue. He used a needle little bit thicker one than stainless-steel needless used in Japan, but gave me less pain than Japanese acupuncture needles.

It seemed that doctors educated in European medical science examine patients and give instructions about medical treatment to doctors of Oriental medical science, according to the results of examinations.

Even though I visited only two hospitals, I was deeply moved by the fact that people's lives were highly valued, especially by the fact mothers and children were treated with deep care.

I also thought that doctors, nurses and other workers engaged in medical service, were thoroughly educated to serve the people wholeheartedly.

While the country buys good medical equipment from foreign countries, it is also developing and domestically producing medical equipment. I strongly felt the country was making efforts for independence in this respect, too.

DPRK: Country for Workers & People

Crewmen of the south Korean fishing boat "Namjin No. 2" which was captured by a naval patrol boat of the Korean People's Army while illegally intruding into coastal waters of the DPRK side on September 8, 1980, were interviewed by Pyongyang reporters on May 14.

According to the statement of Han Jae Jung, purser of "Namjin No. 2" the boat which left Sokcho Port, south Korea, on August 30 last year crossed the Demarcation Line on the sea, going astray from her course as the direction finder went wrong on the return voyage after stopping fishing because one of crewmen suddenly fell ill during fishing in the sea northeast of Ulrung-do Island.

He said that though they illegally intruded into territorial waters of the north, the Government of the DPRK, instead of punishing them, accorded them hospitality which they hardly deserved.

Crewmen told with deep emotion that they spent happy days under a compatriotic care in the northern half of the DPRK.

They said that those who had suffered from various diseases in south Korea were given medical treatment free of charge and fully restored their health.

Chief engineer Kang In Yong was completely cured of liver inflammation and gastroenteric disorder. A 64 year old crewman, An Gui Sok, underwent appendicitis operation and Kim Gap Sok and Ham Du Ok were entertained to a feast in celebration of their sixtieth birthday. Hong Gi Chol who could not know so much as to write his name while working on the sea for 30 years learned for the first time how to read and write the Korean language.

Telling what they saw and felt while visiting different parts of the northern half of the DPRK, they said: The northern half of the DPRK is quite different from what they heard about in the south.

Crewman Han Jae Man said:

Children of poor seamen like us in the south cannot think of studying even in a dream, but here all people are studying free of charge.

Children are fed, clothed and taught at creches and kindergartens and after 11-year compulsory education they study at colleges and universities, receiving even stipends.

The north is a world which has been dreamt of and a land of hope for young men like us.

Purser Han Jae Jung said:

The north is a happy society for fishermen, in a true sense of the word. We clearly realised this time that dreamlike reality of the north is a product of splendid administration of President Kim Il Sung. The north does farming well and gives even free food aid to other countries. The north reaps a bumper harvest every year because farming is done by the Juche-based farming method and entire people help the farmers.

Crewman Song Tae Il, who went to south Korea, taken in by the false propaganda of Yankees during the Korean war, said:

While seeing things in the north again after 30 years' absence I was surprised at the development made in the north in this period. All work has been mechanized at factories as well as in the country-side. The northern half is a world of the people, good for us working people to live in. This is the result of President Kim Il Sung's good administration.

Crewmen expressed their firm determination to struggle for the reunification of the country.

They unanimously said that they could no longer endure sufferings caused by the tragic national split which keeps separating families and relatives in the north and south and abroad and makes them not know whether their dear ones are alive or dead because of the U.S. imperialists occupying south Korea and their lackeys.

Crewman Pak Hon Yong said:

President Kim Il Sung advanced the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo to open a bright way for solving the reunification question by efforts of our nation. Any Korean who truly wants reunification, be in the south or north, in Japan or the United States, should rise for the reunification of the country, rallying as one under the banner of great national unity.

Crewman Hwang Gum Sok said that he was deeply moved to see everyone in the north striving in earnest to build a model land. He further said: In the south the clamour about "threat of southward invasion" is often raised now. The whole of the south has been literally turned into a military drill ground. But here in the north the whole land is busy with peaceful construction and the People's Army is also helping farmers in the paddy fields.

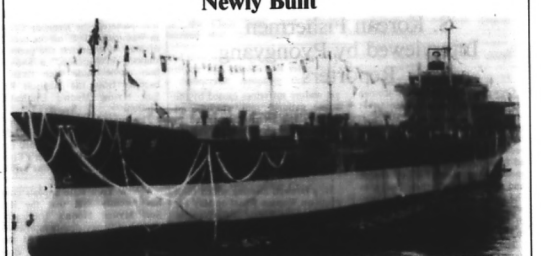
Crewman An Jong Ho called for vigorously rising up to form a great national united front for a reunified Korea, one fatherland, up holding the new proposal for national reunification.

DPRK Helps Construction of Guyanese Irrigation System

With the help of the DPRK in Onverwagt Guyana, the irrigation system was recently completed.

First Vice-President and Prime Minister of Guyana Ptolemy A. Reid at the ceremony celebrating the completion of the irrigation system, said that the newly-built Irrigation system would greatly contribute to Guyanese agricultural production and construction. He also stressed that world people should study the developed agricultural technique of the DPRK to produce quantities of food. Noting that the new irrigation system is a symbol of the friendly and cooperative relations between Guyana and Korea and a new starting point of the agricultural history of Guyana, he declared that it is a duty of the Guyanese government and people to support the cause of national reunification of the Korean people.

14,000-t Cargo Ship, Large-Size Planer Newly Built



On May 17, one more 14,000-ton cargo ship "Chipsam" was launched at the Chongjin Shipyard, North Hamgyong Province. This shipyard had built the 14,000-ton cargo ship "Wangjesan" in 1974 for the first time. After that many ships were launched there, including 14,000-ton cargo ships "Osandok," "Tumangang," "Taehongdan" and "Pegaebong."

In the Ryongsong Machine Complex, South Hamgyong Province, an all-purpose extra-large gantry planing machine was also built in early May. This machine does work of boring and drilling at the same time. It consumes power 50% less than the former large-size planers.

Rodong Sinmun Editorial on Heroic Kwangju Uprising

Rodong Sinmun May 18 carries an editorial on the first anniversary of the heroic Kwangju popular uprising. Follows a gist of an editorial.

The editorial headlined "Heroic Kwangju Popular Uprising will Shine Long in the History of Struggle against Fascism and for Democracy" notes that the Kwangju popular uprising was an explosion of resentment of the popular masses against fascist tyranny and oppression. It says:

Though the Kwangju popular uprising failed to be crowned with victory due to bloody suppression by the military fascist clique, it recorded a proud page which will shine long in the history of struggle of the south Korean people against fascism and for democracy.

This struggle was an unprecedented mass popular uprising in which all classes and all strata and men and women, young and old—workers, peasants, youth and students, intellectuals, petty traders, religionists and even some enterprisers and "government employees"—unanimously took to a sacred road and resolutely fought against "yusin" remnants and military fascist rule, reflecting a unanimous desire of the people for democracy and a new life in south Korea.

Uprising was a heroic armed resistance in which uprisings countered violence with violence, captured weapons from the enemy to arm themselves, put up an indomitable struggle against repressive forces armed to the teeth, incomparably superior in number, displaying a high degree of organisation and tenacity under orderly command of an autonomous organisation and armed organisation; it was a struggle of the highest form against fascism and for democracy waged with a lofty desire to liquidate the old "yusin" rule and realize a new democratic politics.

Indeed, the Kwangju popular uprising was a distinguished event which adorned with shining feats the history of struggle of the south Korean people for freedom and democracy. Tremendous is significance of the Kwangju popular uprising in the struggle of oppressed peoples for independence, sovereignty, democracy and progress.

In its scale and tenacious and protracted nature, the Kwangju popular uprising was the biggest and most resolute massive popular uprising without precedent in modern history of the East.

Through this uprising Kwangju people proved truth that strength of a people who have risen to become masters of their destiny is mightier than a bayonet of oppressors and that if popular masses fight in defiance of death, displaying self-sacrificing spirit, they can defeat any vicious enemy and demonstrated heroic stamina of the south Korean people who do not bend the knee before fascist dictators.

Struggle of Kwangju people was a solemn warning that dictators riding on the back of the people cannot go scotfree or escape destruction.

Flames of the popular uprising that flared up in Kwangju was a historic landmark showing that the struggle of people against fascism and for democracy entered a new higher stage. Feats and exploits performed by Kwangju students and people in development of the struggle against fascism and for democracy will be undying and remain forever in the history of struggle.

Developments in south Korea in past one year clearly showed that as long as Chon Du Hwan, a remnant of "yusin," fascist hangman, murderer, butcher of the nation and matchless traitor to the nation, is left intact in the post of "power" and military blackguards are riding roughshod over south Korea, democratic freedom of the south Korean people and their right to existence, peace and reunification are unthinkable.

In south Korea the "yusin" fascist system should be liquidated, free political activities of the people of all strata be ensured, all fascist evil laws be abolished and Kim Dae Jung and all other illegally arrested and jailed democratic figures and patriotic people be set free. Traitorous puppet Chon Du Hwan must step down from "power" at once and a democratic government reflecting urgent democratic demands of the people be established in south Korea.

U.S. imperialism, the very one who has turned south Korea into a pandemonium of fascism and a living hell as we see today by instigating the puppet clique, must with draw its aggression forces from south Korea and take its hands of interference off Korea.

In conclusion the editorial stresses:

The south Korean people will hold high a banner of anti-fascism and democracy and more vigorously turn out to the struggle for abolishing the Chon Du Hwan military fascist rule and certainly win freedom and democracy.

Tim Shorrok: Pointless U.S. Aid

Mr. Tim Shorrock, an American journalist and researcher, told the People's Korea that the south Korean economy cannot get better because of its structural problems and that U.S. military aid to south Korea will make the military tensions worse. He was one of the American delegates who attended the Emergency World Assembly for South Korean Democracy held in Tokyo from May 16 through May 19. He's working with a research organization called Nautilus International in San Francisco. Follow excerpts from his interview:

Q. *What brought you to the current world conference and what made you become involved in Korean affairs?*

A. I was invited by the ASKOD people to participate in some of the workshops on the economy and to show solidarity with the Korean people. Personally, I've lived in Seoul, south Korea for three years, 1959 to 1961. And I was in there when Syngman Rhee was overthrown by the student revolution. Even though I was 9 years old, this affected me very much. This enabled me to see people take history in their hands and overthrow the dictatorial regime. I remember this. I was active in an anti-Vietnam war movement, and when I was in the anti-Vietnam war movement, I began to study more about Korea and read about U.S. involvement in Korea since World War II. And eventually when I went to a graduate school, I wrote a thesis on the south Korean economy.

Q. *The south Korean economy is getting worse during the past several years. I would like to invite your comments on the recent south Korean economic situation.*

A. Well, I think the economy is deteriorating before Pak was assassinated. Imbalances in the economy came very much to the fore after the first oil crisis, and in particular after the 1977 and 1978 oil crisis when oil prices became very high, raw material prices became very high. And there was very high inflation. Also the workers' repression was getting very strong, and the repression of students and human rights workers was becoming very strong. Dependence on foreign capital and foreign technology is getting deeper. And the way the Chon regime is trying to dig its way out of crisis is to increase its dependence on foreign capital, I think, and to open up the domestic market and banks to foreign corporations. I don't see that the south Korean economy can get better, because, structurally, it's completely imbalanced.

Q. *Do you agree with World Bank experts when they said that the south Korean economy has long-standing structural problems?*

A. That's what they said. Yes, that's true. But their solutions are short-term solutions and solutions are in a context of maintaining international bank and international corporative investment in south Korea. Because, they cannot see any other structure besides an export-oriented economy. Their solutions are unworkable.

Q. *As soon as Reagan took office, he invited Chon Du Hwan to the White House to reaffirm U.S. military commitment to south Korea. And at the U.S.-south Korea Security Consultative Meeting, U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger promised to give more military aid to south Korea. Do you think U.S. military aid to south Korea is beneficial to preserving peace on the Korean Peninsula?*

A. No, I don't think so. It is going to make military tensions much worse. And I think it's harmful to economies of both north and south Korea. It's also very dangerous to have such military forces facing each other by selling Chon Du Hwan F-16s and other sophisticated weapons and by allowing south Korea to begin exporting arms made with American technology. This is gonna make south Korea even more the military power and make it much more cold war confrontory area than it is now. And I think Reagan's policies are completely bankrupt and are just going to lead to a worse situation but I think, that is part of the U.S. ruling class global strategy, because they wanna use south Korea as a base against the Soviet Union and they want to use south Korea to protect the United States corporative banking interests in Asia. Because Chon Du Hwan is basically a stooge for the U.S. He would do whatever the U.S. tells him to do militarily.

Q. *Do you think that south Korea can produce a nuclear weapon in the 1980s?*

A. I think it is a possibility up to now. Well, I'm sure that this is one of the major reasons that they want to build so many nuclear power plants to be able to have capability. Right now they don't have technology to do it. However, the Reagan administration's policy toward nuclear proliferation is not quite clear, but apparently he is not against some countries becoming having nuclear weapons. However, I still don't think that the Reagan administration would like the south Korean regime to have nuclear weapons. But they definitely have possibilities, more nuclear plants they have, more materials they have to use to make. If the Japanese and Koreans begin working together more reprocessing nuclear materials, this could lead to a nuclear weapons program.

Q. *What do you think of the Reagan administration's policy to give economic, military aid to dictatorial regimes in the world including those in El Salvador and in south Korea?*

A. I'm opposed to the policy. I'm in favor of the countries organizing themselves and organizing their own economies as independent countries, not as tools of foreign, American interests. And I think his policy will be completely bankrupt and fail.

Kwangju Incident Shook World: Chinese "People's Daily"

May 18 issue of the Chinese "People's Daily" carried an article titled "Strong Grasses Grow on blood-drenched Kwangju." Follows the gist of an article.

Recalling a recent twaddle of south Korean dictator Chon Du Hwan that he would "grant a chance of enjoying a favor to those involved in the Kwangju incident and violators of martial law decrees" after the "election" carried out at the point of a bayonet, the paper says:

This drivel, compared to his threatening outcries when he was plunging Kwangju into a sea of blood, may give everyone impressions that he has quite changed.

Under his direct command Kwangju streets were drenched with blood, strewn with dead bodies, in a period of 10 days.

This was followed by wholesale round-up, imprisonment and murder, removal of political adversaries, illegal death sentence on Kim Dae Jung and obliteration of people's freedom of speech.

White terrorism swept the whole land of south Korea in a moment.

Ensuing developments showed that it was unthinkable apart from his greed for power that Chon Du Hwan committed fascist violence rare in history, ignoring denunciation of the world people. In three months he climbed up to the post of the south Korean supreme ruler along a bloodstained road which he had paved with tanks and bayonets.

But Chon Du Hwan never thought that he could not kill all people nor smother shouts against dictatorship and for democracy.

Noting that since the Kwangju incident the south Korean economy has gone from bad to worse to sink into an unprecedented crisis, the paper exposes bankruptcy of the south Korean economy, citing concrete figures.

It further says:

Chon Du Hwan cannot get to a sound sleep, as handbills reading "Down with Chon Du Hwan!" are scattered and assemblies and demonstrations against the Chon Du Hwan "regime" are held frequently in Seoul and local areas.

A series of dramas staged by him with great pains, though they could never deceive eyes of the south Korean people, won a favour of the U.S. authorities. So, no sooner had Reagan taken office as president than he invited Chon Du Hwan before anyone else.

If there is anything Chon Du Hwan's customary method of suppression "paid off," it is that broad segments of patriotic democrats and popular masses of south Korea saw better a true color of this dictator and called forth their determination to fight him to the bitter end.

Strong grasses are growing on a blood-drenched soil of Kwangju and the tinge of spring is thickening on the once frozen land.

The Kwangju incident which shook the world has been recorded in the history of anti-dictatorship struggle of the south Korean people. As long as serious class and social antagonisms remain in south Korea, spirit of Kwangju will certainly be displayed again in the south Korean people's struggle.

Whatever petty tricks Chon Du Hwan may play, the people will eventually see the day of his downfall.

"Chominryon" Shamefully Dissolved at Last

"Chominryon" which had been engaged in vicious manoeuvrings against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) for several years in Japan under instructions of the south Korean puppet clique was dissolved at the end of March this year.

As is known, "Chominryon" was a sinister plot-breeding organisation which the south Korean puppet central intelligence agency framed up in a gangster-like manner in April 1976 by raking together depraved turncoats within movements of Koreans in Japan, saboteurs and chance elements for a purpose of disorganizing and destroying Chongryon.

Claiming that "Chominryon" was a product of an "internal disintegration" of Chongryon, the puppet clique had driven the human rubbish absorbed in it into manoeuvrings against the DPRK and Chongryon, frequently sending funds for sabotage to them.

Riffraffs of "Chominryon" headed by O Jong Tae, at dictates of the puppets, tried to detach Koreans in Japan from the Chongryon organisation with a play of "home visit" to south Korea and, in collusion with the "international federation for victory over communism" and the "unification church," defended traitor Chon Du Hwan who was under fire at home and abroad for his massacre of fellow countrymen and fascist arguing that the Kwangju incident was "an armed uprising aimed to overthrow the state on orders of the north," "it was right to put down Kwangju" and the like.

But all these intrigues were shattered to pieces each time by the struggle of compatriots and Japanese people and only exposed "Chominryon" as a tool and plot-breeding organisation of the south Korean puppet clique.

Organizing themselves in a scramble to grab more crumbs of bread thrown at them by their master, wretches of "Chominryon" had done nothing more than revealing their ugly colour, without any "success."

The puppet clique was compelled to dissolve "Chominryon" as it failed to succeed in its intrigues even by squandering a huge amount of fund.

The end of "Chominryon" means a failure of sinister intrigues of the south Korean puppet clique to undermine Chongryon.

Analysis of 1st Anniv. of Kwangju Uprising

One year ago, a ten-day uprising of citizens and students of Kwangju, capital of South Cholla Prov., south Korea, took place, opening a completely new phase in the people's movement for democracy. The uprising ended in a massacre and mass detention of peaceful demonstrators by special paratroopers of Gen. Chon Du Hwan. One estimate is: over 17,000 casualties including some 2,500 death. This is a tentative investigation of the origin, background and implication of the uprising.

A view of Kwangju City (From the June 2nd issue of the daily Chonnam Ilbo)

BACKGROUND

The assassination on October 26, 1979 of the former dictator Pak Jung Hi raised hopes of democratic restoration in the minds of the people who suffered under the 18 years of his authoritarian rule. In a move to appease the public demands, interim president Choi Gyu Ha announced "a timetable for political development" and a series of "democratic reform," albeit without details.

A six-month period from that time till May 17 was a period of preliminaries before a play-off.

Two apparently conflicting curses of action loomed large: One was ending the police-state politics and restoring democracy and the other preventing the resurrection of democracy and the reinforcement of the yusin regime in a new form.

On the democratic side, the popular demands for reunification surfaced, coupled with those for democratic rights. North-south working level talks were afoot to arrange a premiers meeting. An overall impression was the visit of "spring," a long-overdue political democracy.

Under public pressure, many democratic detainees were rehabilitated and the students expelled from universities reinstated. Across south Korea, vigorous activities were unfolded to regroup the once-disunited democratic forces with an eye to an eventual democratic presidential election. A series of public hearings was organized to build national consensus on the abrogation of the yusin constitution and the adoption of a new democratic charter.

Kim Dae Jung emerged a strong favorite to win the presidential election and became a rallying banner of the democratic people. He was widely believed to stand for democratic restoration and a north-south reunification. His arrival in the Blue House or of his ally would mean the south independent of American or Japanese control and ready for closer relations with the north.

The yusin remnant forces were preoccupied with keeping themselves in power by all means. They had little attention to redressing the economic plight, an inheritance from the so-called first-growth policy which had already backfired. Inflation ran at an annual rate of nearly 40 percent and the jobless people numbered several million while the real wages fell by a large margin. The woes of the working masses quadrupled. Life became intolerable.

The long-smouldering popular discontents drew near their explosion point. Against this background miners of the Tongwon Coal Mine and students of Seoul and other cities put up organized resistance to the yusin forces. Labor strikes became increasingly violent and frequent: students of 68 of all the 85 universities and colleges participated in the protest actions in various forms.

The democratization forces stepped up their campaign to press for democratic reforms and challenged the Chon-led yusin forces to step down. They threatened to carry out national protests. From May 1 on, the students, a long-standing vanguard of the local democratic opposition, began to take to streets as they zeroed in on the abolition of martial law and the resignation of Chon Du Hwan. Once not openly sympathetic to the students, all the opposition leaders and even Kim Jong Pil, associate of the late strongman Pak Jung Hi and ex-premier, expressed support for these demands. A fateful stage was set for the Kwangju massacre – a desperate but well-calculated all-out counter-attack by the Chon-led forces.

According to their scenario, a stage-by-stage operation was executed with clockwork precision: The December 12, 1979 purge of military leaders led by Gen. Chon, the April 14 appointment of Chon Du Hwan as acting KCIA chief, and the production of the "government"-initiated draft Constitution. Partial martial law remained in effect.

Gen. Chon and his followers, after consulting the Americans, moved to put their long-prepared plan into practice. First, they spread rumors about the "threat" from the north. Under this pretext, they put the armed forces on alert, actually, for domestic crackdown operations. On the evening of May 17, Gen. Chon expanded martial law to cover the entire territory of south Korea–his second coup deta't. Mass arrests immediately followed of more than 1,000 detention throughout the country including Kim Dae Jung and most of the professors, students, labor activists and human rights activists as well as Kim Jong Pil and some other yusin supporters. All forms of political activity were banned, the national assembly dissolved with its buildings condoned, the New Democratic Party and the Democratic Republican Party ordered disbanded, all universities and colleges closed indefinitely and a press censorship reinforced.

Women weeping in front of the coffin of their husband and son, May 27, 1980

CAUSE

When the Kwangju incident occurred, some self-styled experts cited the following as possible reasons for uprising: 1) Kwangju was Kim Dae Jung's home base; 2) Traditional anti-Seoul sentiments of Cholla Provs; 3) Resentment at Kyongsang Provs. However, Mokpo was the home base of Kim Dae Jung and Pak Jung Hi was killed in the wake of the Pusan-Masan riots in South Kyongsang Province. The most serious anti-Chon demonstrations took place mainly in Seoul. Slogans and demands raised by citizens and students of Kwangju were far from provincial. They echoed those of Seoul citizens and people in other parts of south Korea. The lifting of martial law; the resignation of the interim "regime"; the immediate execution of defense security commander Gen. Chon Du Hwan; and transfer of power to the democratic forces. The protestors shouted "Death to Chon Du Hwan!" and "Dismember Chon Du Hwan". Technically speaking, each and every city and area of south Korea was on the verge of a near April 19 situation, whatsoever little difference in extent and scope. The April 19, 1960 kicked off by the Masan rising. The 1979 end of the yusin regime was sealed by the Pusan-Masan affair. In case of the 1980 developments, Seoul citizens and students took the initiative and tried to reach out to local areas. A total news blackout was so effective in keeping the Kwangju uprising from being known to the rest of south Korea. The martial law forces condoned off the city of Kwangju and cut off its outside communications.

As local citizens testified, the entire city–men and women of all ages–more than 700,000 people rose. The most immediate cause was barbarous atrocities against citizens and students by paratroopers. The well-disciplined behavior of the students and their reasonable demands which had become something of a national consensus, were equally important factors that led ordinary citizens to join them. The pain and anger which the citizens being manhandled by the military were a universal, human feeling over and above and immediate secular interests. Kwangju citizens described how they rose: "Who would resist willingly if you knew you would be killed? But after seeing people here murdered without resistance, everyone–men and women, young and old–rose up. A rebellion broke out. No human being could watch idly."

The brutality of the military reinforced the belief of the citizens that the army-led interim government was not sensitive to the public voices for democracy and took off its mask, revealing its true nature as enemy of the people and democracy. This revelation closed the ranks of the people and sustained their 10-day well-organized takeover of the city.

AMERICAN CONNIVANCE

The Kwangju incident caused a major change in the attitude of the people toward the United States, a gravest error ever committed by Washington in Korea policy–anti-American sentiments.

Firstly, the U.S. released south Korean troops from its command for diversion to Seoul and Kwangju,

Secondly, dispatched its air force and naval units to south Korea to help Gen. Chon's fight with its popularities, and

Thirdly, refused to intervene when Kwangju citizens called for U.S. help and intervention.

At the time of the uprising, the Capital City Garrison Command was charged with maintaining public peace and order in Seoul, which the paratroops were airlifted to Kwangju. Had there been uprisings of a similar scale in other areas, the Chon junta, without any additional soldiers under its command, might have been brought down. The Washington government promptly released part of the forces under the Combined Forces Command for the suppression of the Kwangju uprising.

The 31st Division was diverted on May 19 to Kwangju and US. E3A's were removed to Okinawa for a contingency purpose; Midway and Coral Sea, aircraft carriers, were ordered into the Korean waters all ostensibly to prevent an invasion from the north. They were obviously intended to facilitate Gen. Chon's takeover of Kwangju and show that the U.S. would not tolerate the Kwangju uprising's spreading to other parts. These steps brought home to the Kwangju citizens and the people of south Korea that the United States was not on the side of democracy and was a patron of their oppressors, Gen. Chon and his company.

SPECIFIC FEATURES & LESSONS

The Kwangju uprising was the biggest and fiercest massive rioting, the first of the sort in the modern history of the Eastern people struggling against despotism and for democracy. Even the wealthy citizens and the police sided with the demonstrators. There were unconfirmed reports that the garrison stationed in the city refused to fire, obeyed the orders from Seoul, with fierce infighting taking a heavy toll of lives among the loyal and the disobedient troops.

A report alleged that the local 31st army reserve division was disarmed by the martial law troops because of its disobedience to the superior. Another report quoted one eyewitness as saying that one paratrooper, upset by the military's violence against the citizens, killed five of his comrades and then killed himself.

The uprising contributed greatly toward a qualitative change in the democratization movement of south Korea for the following three reasons.

For one thing, the people came to realize that Pyongyang was not responsible for the killing of citizens. The northerners, despite widespread allegation of its imminent attack, did not cross the 38th Parallel to strike the south. A hard fact of life, an increasing number of people listened to Radio Pyongyang for news locally available. Fear of Pyongyang were no longer credible.

Secondly, disenchantment with the U.S. and anti-American sentiments grew within the grassroots.

Previously, the south Korean

(Continued on page 5)

A wounded man is carried on a stretcher, May 21, 1980

Hong Kong Journalist State:

"Kwangju Massacre— Blinkers Fall from Western Eyes"

The following is a full text of an article written by Mr. Paul J. White, Secretary of the Hong Kong Journalist Association and former editorial staff of the Korea Herald, headlined "Kwangju Massacre–Blinkers Fall from Western Eyes":

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The uprising in Kwangju in May last year served to explode all the myths nurtured by the Western press about Korea over the years since Liberation in 1945.

The cornerstone of these myths was the one which sought to persuade the outside world that the south Koreans were so terrified of an attack from the north, and so afraid of communism taking away their "prosperity," that they were willing to sacrifice "a few minor freedoms" for the sake of "national security."

But this theory was turned on its head when Lieut. Gen. Chon Doo-hwan seized power in a sort of slow-motion coup. As if re-living a nightmare, the people of south Korea witnessed a repeat of Park Chung Hee's May 16th 1961 coup when Chon withdrew crack troops from the DMZ and occupied the capital city of Seoul, arresting his own commanding officer in a bloody shoot-out.

This action served to undermine all later claims that the general made about the necessity for solidarity in the face of "the threat from the north."

As in the case of Park's coup, by pulling troops from the frontline Chon demonstrated that he himself does not take seriously his own rhetoric about a "threat from the north," and need to preserve "national consensus in case the north Koreans miscalculate the situation and invade." Surely, if the north Koreans did not invade when the south Korean armed forces turned their backs and marched away from the DMZ to battle among themselves and massacre south Korean civilians, they would be hardly likely to launch a full-scale invasion upon the occasion of a student demonstration or freely held elections, no matter how unruly.

Moreover, if an officer can mutiny and arrest his own commander with impunity the whole command structure of the armed forces is shattered. In other words, the road to success in the south Korean military is for some junior officer to do to Chon what he did to his superiors. And that day is probably not far off.

The factor in the series of tragedies that marked the year 1980 in south Korea that caused a resounding shock and lingering anxiety among people of the Western world was, and is, the role of the U.S. forces in those tragedies.

The myth in this case was that the U.S. forces were in south Korea under a United Nations mandate to defend democracy and human rights (free speech, etc.) in one half of the Korean Peninsula, even though these Western values were denied in the other half. However, the ambivalent stance taken by these troops and their masters in Washington while democracy was being crushed, human rights snuffed out, and civilians massacred in a nation supposedly enjoying the benefits of their protection, has made it clear once and for all that the U.S. is conducting a military occupation of south Korea, using renegade Koreans it trained for the purpose of whipping the people into obedient silence.

Under the terms of the armistice agreement which ended the Korean War (1950–53) the U.N. Command retains operational control of all south Korean armed forces (the commander-in-chief is the south Korean president). This condition was insisted upon by the Chinese and north Korean side, in the teeth of fierce opposition by Syngman Rhee, the south's dictator at the time. The commander of the U.S. forces in Korea is concurrently commander of the U.N. Command and of the so-called Combined Forces Command i.e. U.S. and Korean troops, with the south Koreans in a decidedly inferior position, and exclusively U.S. soldiers manning nuclear weapons bases.

The strategic dilemma posed by the Kwangju massacre is this: If the U.N. commander, at present Gen. Wickham, really controls south Korea's armed forces, then he must have given the order, or at least permission, for Lieut. Gen. Chon, a Military Police officer, to withdraw troops manning the frontline for a march on the capital in order to smash the command structure of the south Korean armed forces and seize the government – an astonishing maneuver for a soldier supposedly dedicated to defending freedom and democracy, and worried about the overwhelming hordes of fanatical communists poised to sweep across the frontline and deprive the south of its "free, prosperous democratic society." However, when one recollects that Gens. Wickham and Chon graduated from the same military academy together and fought together in the ill-fated Vietnam War, perhaps it is not so surprising after all.

The other horn of the dilemma is that if Wickham can not control the south Korean armed forces, then the Americans have again been manipulated by a power-mad mutineer who will not besitate to use U.S. military might to further his own megalomaniac ambitions – a shuddering thought for Asia and the world.

The message received by the people of Korea is that the Americans are either paper tigers who can do nothing to save them from the jackbooted warlords who keep them in fear and poverty, or that they are foreign tyrants prepared to crush any hope of freedom and peace the Koreans may have in order to use them to accomplish the strategic goals of the Pentagon.

In the aftermath of Kwangju it also became clear to foreign eyes that military upheavals in south Korea are closely connected with attempts to solve the crucial problem of Korea – the division of the nation.

Every time progress, however slight, is made in south-north contacts there are convulsions in Seoul: witness Park's coup of 1961 to preempt a conference between students of south and north at Panmunjom; the declaration of the Yushin dictatorship following the opening of the south-north talks in 1971-72, in order to silence calls for broader national participation; and a host of

"spy scares," "guerrilla infiltrations," "campus crackdowns," and emergency martial law declarations every time a chance to resume dialogue and reduce tensions is offered.

Chon's seizure of power neatly fits in with this pattern. It may be recalled that early in 1980, at Pyongyang's behest, the two sides started talks aimed at realising a meeting between Prime Minister Shin Hyon-hwack of the south and Premier Lee Jong-ok of the north. The Pyongyang side even went so far as to implicitly recognise President Choi Kyu-hah as the president of the Republic of Korea.

We all remember what happened in Seoul then: Lieut. Gen. Chon seized power in the best banana republic tradition, dismissed Prime Minister Shin, and later elbowed out President Choi to grab the presidency for himself.

Once again, attempts to pursue a dialogue for unification and reduction of tension were sabotaged, and south Korea was once again an armed camp, a solid foothold for the Pentagon in its confrontation with the Soviet Union, and a profitable market for U.S. weapons sales.

When the south Korean people protested at their hopes for democracy, peace and unification being dashed, the military decided to make an example of the city of Kwangju. And apparently, Gen. Wickham did not utter one word of sympathy for the people murdered there with shocking savagery by troops under his command.

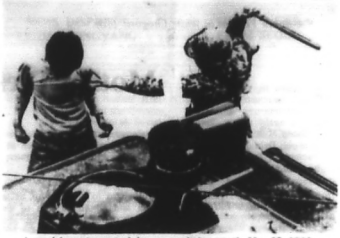
An important side-effect of the Kwangju massacre has been that the Western press has taken a long, hard look at the Korean peninsula. The tired old myth about a staunchly anti-communist populace united behind a strong leader in the south, laying the foundation for a Western-style democracy via an "economic miracle" in the face of an "unpredictable, warlike" dictator in the north has been well and truly shattered.

Nowadays, the view from the West is of a people beaten to their knees by a U.S.-trained military upstart, and an economy bled white by foreign financial domination. There have been ominous warnings of an anti-American backlash among the grassroots in south Korea.

Western, especially American, support for the late dictator Park Chung Hee was resented by the population at large, but there were some people in south Korea who attributed this to ignorance on the part of the foreigners of conditions in Korea. Besides, a tiny minority could grudgingly point to Park's economic achievements, and attribute U.S. support to America's hope that a strong economy would pave the way for evolution of democracy in south Korea.

No more. President Ronald Reagan's wholehearted support for "The Butcher of Kwangju" has squashed any illusions about the U.S. as the protector of Korean democracy, and America's callous, horse-trading attitude to south Korea's export industries has dispelled any hopes that the south Korean economy will ever come near to making it possible for south Koreans to stand on their own feet.

Attitudes to north Korea, too, have shifted dramatically. Far from being an austere, war-machine of a society, the picture is emerging of a stable, cultured nation with a soundly-based economy ready for a large-scale take-off as a major exporting power. The Japanese, naturally, have been the first to sense this, and have been busy expanding their trade links with the DPRK, at the same time hedging their political bets (Foreign Minister Ito's denial of a threat of invasion from the north, etc.), much to Seoul's consternation.



A special paratrooper clubs an unresisting youth, May 20, 1980

The arrested youths ordered to take off their clothes, May 20, 1980

A student still alive amid dead bodies, May 27, 1980

A dead body carried by paratroopers, May 27, 1980

(Continued from page 4)

people felt very close to the U.S., but this sense of affinity was smashed by the Kwangju incident, during which Americans visibly stood by Gen. Chon Du Hwan and his cronies, awareness of the U.S. role in the suppression of the people of Kwangju ended the illusion about the United States as a close friend of the south Korean people. One taxi driver in Seoul was said to have burst out in English while carrying an American passenger: "The American government, President Choi Gyu Ha . . . God damn!" (May 27, 1980 issue of Asian Wall Street Journal). People now know that with American help and weapons, Gen. Chon massacred their fellow countrymen in Kwangju as they called for democracy and liberty.

Thirdly, the armed forces called "Kukkun" (the national army), were killers of fellow countrymen. They did not protect the citizens. The martial law troops used tanks, helicopter gunships, machine guns, artillery pieces and flame-throwers in the Kwangju massacre.

For the first time in modern local history, the regulars fired on the south Korean citizens and slaughtered many. This shattered the public credibility of the armed forces. Its knowledge by rank and file will prove a key demoralizing factor.

*"A-Bomb Victims in White Chogori" (13)

Mother Dies

Chong Mun Ok, 56 years old, female, construction worker; resident of Daiu Furuichi, Ankoshi-machi, Hiroshima City; born at Taemok-ri, Taeyang-myon, Hyopchon county, S. Kyongsang Prov; bombed at Hiroshima City

Start of Tragic Fate

(Continued from No. 1,044 issue of The People's Korea)

We came to Japan after our father. We didn't know Japanese. What words do you think we learned first? It didn't take a long time for me to learn certain words. Because Japanese children spoke them to me whenever they met me. How pleased I was to be spoken to by others. I would listen to them, with a smile.

One day, I was taught the meaning of the words, which meant *"tunina chukkua"* (fool in Korean)." After that, I came to be conscious of being a Korean.

I was born in 1924 at Taemok-ri, Taeyang-myon, Hyopchon county, South Kyongsang Province. When I was 9 years old, our family came to Japan after our father. When I was 7 years old, my father, who was a farmer, suddenly said to my mother that he was going to Japan. Leaving my crying mother, my father disappeared from us. That was an unexpected event. My father didn't tell us the reason. We did not know whether he was recruited, drafted or simply deceived. I think that was due to the colonial policy of Japan. I heard many Koreans had been taken to Japan as drafters in the name of "recruited workers." My father may have come to Japan as a recruited worker. Because of a military secret, he was not allowed to say anything about it. Even now he is unwilling to talk about the matter. Does he think that if he tells about his past bitter experience, it will hurt himself and disgrace his family's honor? At that time, my mother knew nothing about Japan. What I know clearly is that our life became difficult.

I have an elder brother of 9 years old and a younger brother of one year old. We were not yet old enough to help our mother. Mother was 29 years old then. She was a small statue and was not in good health. She worked a small plot of land.

There was a lake like a riverlet in front of our house. When she wanted to be on the other side of the lake and work on the field, she used to wade across the lake. After carrying a pot with fertilizer on her head, she would carry us in the same way one after another. Then, she began to till soil. It was hard work for my weak mother. She grew rice. But somehow we seldom saw rice in our home. We ate foxtail millet and vegetables every day and wild grass, which is now popular among rich well-fed people.

One day a man who looked like a Japanese came to my home and drive long iron sticks into our garden in several places. Mother bawled out something toward the man who continued to do the work without a word. Later, I heard from my mother that Japanese were looking for rice in such a way.

A mere child as I was, I somehow knew the reason why we couldn't eat rice, we were angry with the Japanese as we had to scrape a living from day to day.

Our village was a small one surrounded by mountains. All families were farming. They were leading a difficult life. I think that they thought that their life was hard.

We heard nothing from our father. My mother, who had to work hard to bring us up, became thin and would be seen to weep secretly. When we talked about our father even a little, our gentle mother would say in an angry voice, *"Aboji* (daddy)will return home soon. Don't worry." My mother must have thought that if she looked discouraged, we would also be discouraged. In spite of our mother's words, we came to know clearly how empty and unreliable her words were. However, we couldn't but accept her words were. However, we couldn't but accept her words. We were thrown into a doodlebug.

It was two years later that we heard about our father. Our uncle living in Hiroshima wrote us that our father was working as a timber hauler for the army and that he was safe and sound.

We were so pleased to go to Japan where our father lived. My mother sold out all our furniture for 20 yen, which was used as our travelling expenses.

In 1933 or when I was 9 years old, our family–4 in all–left the native place, with only our personal belongings.

I suffered from sea-sickness on our way from Pusan to Shimonoseki. Big swelling waves rolled and pitched our small ship. I felt dizzy and nausea, and annoyed our mother insisting on returning to Korea. I saw her face, twitching, which had turned pale. She seemed to be enduring something.

Who could know then that our small family was going to be engulfed into the bellows.

My mother, who knew nothing but the bringing of her children and working on the farm, couldn't know that she, too, was being tossed by politics. We sold our house and our land, and left our homeland, believing that we could lead a decent living if we met our father.

Unsatisfying Reunion With Father

We didn't know that this was the start of our tragic fate, our servile life.

When we arrived at Hiroshima Station, we saw our uncle there to meet us. We didn't find our father. We heard that our father was employed by a timber company. We were worried about our future, as our father's address was not certain. The biggest trouble we had in Japan was our dwelling house apart from eating. The Japanese didn't want to let a house to Koreans. There were two rooms –a 6-mat and a 3-mat room– in our uncle's house. We lived in the 3-mat room and everyday searched the places wherever we could go for our father. It was difficult for us to find our father as the Koreans had been forced to change their names.

One day, our father suddenly appeared before us. During his two years' stay in Japan, he was worn to a shadow and was but the ruin of his former self. We thought we could manage to live if we could meet our father. Our father dashed our fond hopes. His eyes were sunken and his hands were rugged and bony. He was barely breathing.

He must have been exploited without being given enough food. Shedding tears and patting us on the heads, he said that he couldn't flee from the construction site. He departed alone, leaving us there. That was an unsatisfying reunion.

We were deprived of our father, a breadwinner. We had to eke out a living by ourselves.

We Koreans couldn't get a decent job and the wages for Koreans were low. Further, Koreans were forced to work under worse working conditions. My mother began to work at home, and the work was to reclaim thread from worn-out cement bags. She disentangled tangled threads in a narrow room. Whenever she did so, cement powder filled the room. The tip of her nose became white. We were unable to live with her work. My elder brother attended a school and I had to nurse a Japanese child to earn money. We scraped a living somehow. When a baby girl cried on my back, I also whimpered with her. "We may die of hunger, Mmok, won't you work for us? ..." Holding my hands, she asked me (11 years old then) to work, adding "I'm sorry I have to say such a cruel thing to you."

There was a tin factory in Funeiricho, where many girls worked, who looked to be of the same age as I. I decided to work there. All workers were Korean girls 10-13 years old. Our wages were low. Water was used all the year round for the work there, so that we even now suffer from boat bug.

In those days, we were living with our father and I had three brothers –8 members in all. Our father changed his work and we lived in a warehouse attacked to a rice brew factory in Senda-machi. When I was 17 years old, I was forced by my parents to marry a man working at a foundry. It was for saving board. My husband's family was large and I had to work. All Koreans were leading a difficult life.

Skins Peeling Off Like Rags

In 1945, air-raids by the U.S. fighter bombers on Hiroshima City increased day by day. In April, we moved to Furuichi for safety.

It was shortly after we moved there. In those days blackouts were strictly enforced. One day, we switched on a light, taking care so that light might not be seen through a black curtain. I changed the napkin for my baby. The chairman of the town association suddenly entered, with his shoes on our room on the second floor. He glared at us with a threatening look, and shouted "What are you doing at this time of emergency?" He tried to remove an electric lamp. As it was hard to get an electric lamp then, I repeatedly begged him to forgive us. However, he never listen to us and even vilified us, saying "You swine Koreans!" He at last removed the electric lamp.

My husband's brother, who was sitting calmly beside us, was angered by the humiliating attitude toward us and was about to attack the chairman. As I checked him, no serious matter occurred. When I look back on that moment, I can't repress my anger.

On Aug. 6, Koreans and Japanese met the same misfortune. On that morning, my husband went as usual to a military clothing factory at Yubari-cho, where he did evacuation work on buildings. His brother was out, too. My husband returned home late that day. He stood without a word at the entrance, with something like rags in his hands. My mother-in-law and I were at a loss what to do. When I approached him, I found that what seemed to be in his hands was not rags but the peeled-off skin of his burnt face and chest. I nearly lost my consciousness at the sight. There was no medicine which we could apply to his injury.

I just applied sliced cucumbers to his injuries and prayed for an early cure.

Thanks to his efforts to endure pains for about a year, he survived and his brother was also safe.

On the other hand, my mother, elder brother, younger brother and younger sister lost their lives. Next day my father and my elder brother's wife came to me, crying *Aigo, Aigo* (Korean–means Oh, or Oh my).

My mother had seen off my brother at Yokokawa station and returned home at Senda-cho to prepare for house-moving to Kabe for safety. Three days later, my elder brother and younger brother were found. My mother and my 4-year-old younger sister are still missing. My elder brother, who was badly burnt, died the next spring.

On Aug. 15, when I knew that Japan was defeated in the war, I felt sad, filled with regrets, and cried hard in the room. I thought why Japan did not surrender before being atom-bombed? If Japan had done so, so many people wouldn't have been killed. I felt chagrined. I don't remember what I did and how our family lived during the three months after the atomic bomb was dropped. Afterwards, we moved to a row house at Ankoshi-machi.

The row house is a one-story shack which had a 6-mat and a 4.5 mat room. Each room was partitioned from the other. Ten families lived in a set of row houses. Our family–6 in all–lived in a 4.5 mat room and some families–about 10 in all–lived in 3-mat room.

In those days Koreans were living in the same place in order to return to the homeland together. My mother-in-law had returned to her native place in Korea. But I had to care for my husband, and my father for my elder and younger brothers were badly burnt by the atom-bomb.

We lost the opportunity to return to our homeland.

Human Rights of Koreans Should Be Guaranteed

We began to brew cheap rice wine to sell it in the black market and breed pigs. We bought rice in the countryside and made home brew in pots, which were buried in holes outside our house in a row. It was true that home brew sold well as there was now wine on the market at that time.

Home brew was sometimes discovered by police and we were arrested. Equipment used for making home was never confiscated and we had to pay a high fine. However, we had to continue this work. Our hide-and-seek game with police continued for a while. Profits were taken away in the form of fine. The work was an ill-paid one.

Breeding pigs was the same. We bred and sold young pigs, which frequently died before they got big enough because of our lack of experience in breeding and insufficient feed.

The biggest trouble we had in breeding pigs was their foul odor and their granting. The narrow room was filled with their foul odor and hungry pigs continued grunting. Three years later, we quitted this work. After that, my husband, who had restored his health, went every day to a public employment security office to find a job. He sometimes found jobs, most of which were one-day jobs like "grass mowing." When he had no job to do, we Koreans helped each other and shared our food.

I began to work on a construction site. My heart ached as I left my children at home alone all day without giving them any food. My son says even now that he is not tall because he didn't eat much in his childhood.

There was a Korean school near my house in those days, whose building was not big or fine. The school was called "the fourth class school," as it was the fourth of its kind to be built in Hiroshima Prefecture. Later the school was closed and my eldest son attended a Japanese school.

When he was in the third year grade, he was despised by his classmates, who said, "You Koreans are fools", as I had experienced in my childhood. He often sobbed. Such things would happen in the world of children. I ignored the matter. But I heard he had had his head and cheeks beaten by a teachers with a slipper.

I made a protest against his act, saying, "Don't beat my boy, even if he is a Korean and lacks common sense."

After the war, Japan changed its system and democracy was introduced. However, what happened to the Koreans in this country? We lost everything and we were deprived of everything. What was restored for us?

During the war, we were deprived of everything made of metal, even tablewares made of metal which had been used since we were in Korea.

After the war, what remained with us was a table bowl. We had been treated like tools and had been robbed of even our chopsticks.

I can't find any change in the policy of the Japanese government toward Koreans.

We are obliged to pay taxes like Japanese. But we don't enjoy the benefits because of the law. Allowances for the aged and children (some local governments give such allowances to Koreans) and even a survivor's annuity are not given to Koreans. If the Japanese government has no intention to give us such allowances, it should at least restore human rights to us. That may be our first and last desire.

I never forget my experiences in Japan even for a moment. Even now I am leading my life with a dark history. Our life was full of sorrows and deep seated grudge. I have pity for my mother who didn't have a happy moment and knew only the bitterness.

My father who is 85 years old this year, always tells me, "I didn't come to Japan of my own accord. I can never return to our homeland until I find your mother's bones. I don't think I will live long. Please bury my bone in my native place with your mother's, if you find them. It's my last wish...."

My mother always wore white *chogori* (national costume). During the war, she was repeatedly warned by policemen to wear Japanese manboons.

She persistently refused it and always wore her national costume. If I can find her bones, I will take them to our homeland and bury them with a white *chogori*.

I wish north and south of Korea will be reintegrated, even if our country will may be a poor country, and I wish to lead a decent life there.

My mother who died in the depth of history must be wandering, searching a place of peaceful rest. Afterwards, my elder brother died the next spring because of the bad burns. I looked for my mother and younger sister, but I couldn't get a track of them.

Thirty-four years have passed since then. I am called "grandma" by my grandchildren. My husband and the eldest son are engaged in construction business. I am also working as a construction worker on an unemployment relief project. (To be continued)

IOJ Supports N-Free Peace Zone

Dr. Hans Treffkorn, Secretary of the International Organization of Journalists, hailed the proposed nuclear-free peace zone in Asia and the Pacific region and a bi-system Confederal Republic of Koryo, in his interview with The People's Korea.

Dr. Hans Treffkorn visited Japan from May 9 to 16 as now being of the IOJ delegation headed by its Vice-Chairman Gerald Gatinot. The IOJ delegation visited Choson Sinbo-sa (Korean newspaper company), the Korean Publishing Hall and Choson University in Tokyo.

Follow gists of his interview:

Q: As you may know, the U.S. deploys over 42,000 combat forces and nearly 1,000 nuclear weapons in south Korea. These nuclear weapons are 1,000 times as destructive as Hiroshima-type A-bomb. The Reagan administration declares its readiness to use nuclear weapons against Korean people.

What's your comments?

A: First of all you understand the International Organization of Journalists always stood, stands and will stand on the side of the Korean people against the policy of the so-called "two Koreas" which some forces and the imperialists try to implement.

We are for one Korea. That is why we support in general the idea of peaceful reunification of Korea without any outside interference and in this context the IOJ is very much against deploying foreign troops of any kind onto any other countries, especially the U.S. imperialist troops in southern Korea.

Not only once but several times the IOJ issued statements protesting against the stationing of the U.S. troops in southern Korea. Of course they are dangerous. These troops are also dangerous because of their cooperation with the south Korean troops and the leadership of henchman you mentioned.

So is the reason why we support the idea of a reunified peaceful and socialist Korea in general.

Q: Recently Pyongyang proposed to establish a nuclear free peace zone including Korea and Japan. I think in order to prevent war in Korea and Asia American military bases and nuclear weapons must be removed from Asia and Pacific region. What do you think about it?

A: The government of Korea recently proferred the idea to set up a nuclearfree zone in the Asian region, the Indian Ocean and so on. I remember it very well. President Kim Il Sung proposed this idea covering these regions. Such nuclear-free, peace zone should be extended step by step.

Comrade Brezhnev made a similar proposal on Africa as well. One should create such nuclear free zone because it is not only a mere proposal, but is a weighty proposal of President Kim Il Sung, Brezhnev and other leading personalities, coming from the bottom of their heart, since they know what war means, they know how their people suffered, they know what one can do if one use some money now spent for military purposes for the betterment of the life of the people. So is the reason why the IOJ supports his idea very much. And we will stand for the removal of any troops and especially for the removal of nuclear weapons from south Korea and from Asia as a whole and for the dismantlement of such weapons of mass destruction in general.

Q: With the U.S. support General Chon Du Hwan took over in south Korea and established military fascist government. There is no sign of democracy and human rights in south Korea. Numerous democrats and human rights activists including ex-"presidential" candidate Kim Dae Jung are in jail. There is no freedom of press. Most TV and newspaper agencies are subjected to total censorship. We think as long as Chon Du Hwan is in power there will be no democracy and reunification. What's your assesment?

A: In particular regarding the problem of south Korea, it can be said we of the IOJ are very concerned about the situation of the journalists and our colleagues. And when I speak about journalists of south Korea, I mean democratic-minded progressive ones. Some journalists support the regime of south Korea. But I mean our real colleagues are democratic and progressive-minded. Unfortunately they suffer from oppression. They suffer because their papers are banned. They suffer because they are kicked out from work. They suffer because they are prevented from doing their normal journalistic work. They suffer from other kinds of oppression.

The regime of south Korea uses all its power to suppress and oppress our democratic-minded journalists as well. So is the reason why the IOJ had awarded to the valiant people and already the IOJ awarded "International Prize of Journalists" to south Korea's Kim Jong Tae. *(He was the chairman of the Seoul Municipal Committee of the United Revolutionary Party and executed in July, 1969 at the age of 42. He was awarded the "International Prize of Journalist" in May, 1969 for his exploits in his struggle in south Korea).*

Only today we had a discussion with our comrades and friends from the Korean Journalists and Publishers Association in Japan about a possibility for closer relations and closer cooperation between this organization and the IOJ. And we would be very pleased and we will be very proud if the IOJ award another international journalists prize to some of your outstanding journalists no matter if you work in north or south Korea and the IOJ only just recently created another award. The medal is called or named after famous outstanding Czech journalist who was killed on Sep. 8 by the fascists during the Second World War. This is the reason why the IOJ decided to celebrate annually Sep. 8 as an international day of solidarity of journalists of the world.

We were very happy to award the "International Prize of Journalists" to one of your outstanding journalist who were so suppressed in south Korea.

According to the death sentence on Kim Dae Jung and its commutation to life imprisonment, first of all, we think this is undemocratic and barbaric act No. 1. It has been obvious that he was sentenced from the very beginning. We are against its action as a whole. Because he did nothing wrong and he spoke for the people. And that is why the IOJ issued a written statement against the barbaric acts against him. And we have even sent protests to the U.N. General Secretary Waldheim and we have informed our member unions and the Korean Journalists Union of this act. And I can really tell you that we are still struggling to win his freedom. It is because not only the problem of his very one man, but also a problem of the all oppressed, jailed, tortured

Dr. Hans Traffkorn, Secretary of the IOJ

people in south Korea.

Q: President Kim Il Sung proposed a bi-system reunification solution at last year's 6th Party Congress. Do you support the proposed plan?

A: I think the main issue concerns the declared wish of the Korean people for a peaceful reunification of your country. I can tell you really that the IOJ has a very clear-cut stand. We are for the reunification of Korea without any outside interference. It must be done by the Korean people themselves. It must be in defiance of Seoul's people who do not like it and of their outside forces who are unfortunately still in south Korea. And on the other hand we support the foundation of the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo as well. Because I personally have been in Korea. And everybody who studied a little the history of Korea knows Koryo existed already. It was a well-built, well-organized state and we could be very happy if a new state, the DCRK, could be established in the near future. And the IOJ very much supports this idea.

Q: How do the German people understand the issue of Korea?

A: First of all one should find a little bit difference between German and Korea.

There exist two German states-Federal Republic of Germany and German Democratic Republic. You know that the declared policy of the GDR is to have friendly, brotherly and comradely relations between Korea and the GDR, and the Head of State and Secretary of General of the Party Erich Honecker visited your country (Dec. 8-11, 1977). And according to the policy of the Party, the people of the GDR wholeheartedly support the struggle of your people in Korea for, the reunification and for the building up of your country in general.

The aim is true of the democratic-minded and progressive people in the Western Germany as well. But unfortunately there are still forces in West Germany which do not like to have such close ties with Korea and we try to turn back the wheels of history. But in general I should say those people who are well informed by the mass media and which are well informed by the journalists. They are on your side and I could show in the end the IOJ is a declared friend of the Korean people. We hope and we understand that the Korean journalists are active, struggling militant members of our global organization.

(KCNA)

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

Apr. 23

- **A Czechoslovak government delegation headed by Rudolf Rohlicek, Vice-Premier of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, arrived in Pyongyang by special plane to attend the fourth session of the Inter-Governmental Economic and Scientific-Technological Consultative Committee of the DPRK and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.**

Apr. 24

- **Protocol of the Fourth Meeting of Inter-Governmental Economic and Scientific-Technological Consultative Committee of Korea and Czechoslovakia was signed in Pyongyang.**
- **Craxi, Secretary General of the Italian Socialist Party met the delegation of the WPK headed by Hwang Jang Yop, Member and Secretary of the CC of the WPK which had attended the congress of the ISP. Saying that the proposal for founding the DCRK put forward by President Kim Il Sung is a realistic and wise one, the secretary general expressed support to the proposal.**

Apr. 27

- **A plan for scientific and technological cooperation for 1981-1982 between the Academy of Agricultural Science of the DPRK and the National Agri-Industrial Union of the Bulgarian People's Republic was signed in Pyongyang.**
- **A delegation of Soviet Transport Trade Unions headed by L.S. Yakobiev, Chairman of the CC of the Trade Union of Auto Transport and Highway Workers of the Soviet Union, arrived in Pyongyang by air.**
- **A Red Cross delegation of the GDR headed by W. Van Treek, Vice-Chairman of the German Red Cross Society of the GDR, arrived in Pyongyang by air.**
- **A delegation of the People's Council of the Syrian Arab Republic headed by its general secretary arrived in Pyongyang by air.**

Apr. 28

- **A Korean friendship visiting group headed by O Il Hyon left Pyongyang by plane for a visit to China.**
- **The State Pyongyang Acrobatic Troupe headed by Choe Yun Son left Pyongyang by plane for a visit to Bangladesh and Pakistan.**

Apr. 29

- **Roving Ambassador Mobutu Nyywa Bangembo who is a special envoy of His Excellency Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga, President of the Republic of Zaire, and his party arrived in Pyongyang by air.**

Apr. 30

- **A delegation of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party headed by Ekramul Haq, Member of the National Standing Committee of the BNP and convener of the agriculture and land reform committee, arrived in Pyongyang by plane.**

May 1

- **Gerardo Mello Mourao, reporter of the Brazilian paper "Folha De S. Paulo", arrived in Pyongyang by plane.**
- **A delegation of youth of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania headed by Muhammed Seif Khatib, Member of the National Executive Committee of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania and National Chairman of Youth of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania, arrived in Pyongyang by air.**

May 2

- **Ivan T.H. Rosenquist, Professor of Oslo University of Norway, arrived in Pyongyang by plane.**
- **A delegation of the Korean moviemen's union headed by Chu Sok Bong left Pyongyang by plane to visit the Soviet Union.**

SHORT NEWS FROM SEOUL

Apr. 29

- **The "ministry of energy and resources" announced that it is examining introduction of an atomic power plant in place of the planned No. 3 and No. 4 Pyongtaek thermal power plants.**

Apr. 30

- **"The government" authorities are selling by auction confiscated property of ex-politicians who were charged with illegally accumulating property.**
- **The "public servants ethics law" was approved in the cabinet meeting.**
- **The "ministry of agriculture and fisheries" announced that 690,000 *sok* of rice purchased from foreign countries was low-quality rice.**
- **The "government" authorities decided to introduce a new tax on education, revise various tax laws and increase tax by 18% in 1981, 22% by 1986.**
- **The National Security Planning Agency notified Kim Yong Sam, co-president of the New Democratic Party and Mrs. Ri Hui Ho (wife of Kim Dae Jung) of their release from house arrests.**

May 1

- **A period from May 1 to the end of June was designated as the period for declaration of illegal possession of firearms.**

May 2

- **The Seoul Tongbu police arrested Ri Hyang Ju (21) and Rim Yong Yon (21) on charges of violating the law on assembly and demonstration. They were charged with distributing anti-"government" leaflets on the university campus.**

May 4

- **The 107th "national assembly" was to be in session until May 19.**

May 7

- **Ri Ung Hui, spokesman for the Chongwadae (Blue House) announced that Chon Du Hwan was visiting five ASEAN countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines) from June 25 to July 9.**
- **The Seoul Nambu police arrested the president of Sale Engineering Co., an automobile spare parts manufacturing company, on charges of accidental homicide. In the five years, 490 labour accidents occurred in south Korea. According to an announcement by the "ministry of labour", 113,375 were victimized by labour accidents last year alone.**

May 8

- **Chon Du Hwan promoted Gen. Yun Sung Min to army chief of the general staff and vice-admiral Ri Un Su, to an admiral.**
- **The government authorities said that new difficulties will be created in introducing atomic power stations equipment made in France and the diplomatic activities with countries in Africa because of Mitterrand's victory in the presidential election in France.**

May 9

- **The Seoul Sodaemun police arrested Pae Yon Gap (23), U Won Sick (23), Kim San Gyu (23), Yonse Univ. students on charges of violating the law on assembly and demonstration. They are charged with distributing anti-"government" handbills and leading a demonstration in the front of the library.**

May 19

- **The criminal affairs section of the supreme court turned down the appeals of two miners, Sin Gang (39) and Cho Heng Ung (39). As a result, their sentence of 2 years imprisonment were confirmed. Meanwhile, the appeal of Ri Won Gap (41), ex-branch head of trade union of mining company, who was charged with being involved in the riot at the Tongwon coal mines, was returned to the Seoul high court for retrial.**

A Spring Day in Korea

By Louis Polasky

EDITOR'S NOTE: Louis Polasky is the pen name of an American journalist who has done work for several U.S. radio networks. He has filed broadcast reports this year from Korea during two separate visits. Here he gives a first-hand account of his latest journey:

My heart is always pounding when I step off the jet at Kimpo airport in Seoul. I had just finished covering a coup in the streets of Bangkok, but facing the customs counter in Seoul made me more nervous than facing the tanks and rifles in the Thai capital.

I fear that sooner or later the ROK government will catch me. My only crime will be reporting the truth. I won't be the first journalist to be kicked out of South Korea. Chun Doo Hwan has had no hesitations about deporting Japanese and American journalists who decided to reveal the true dramas of murder, torture, and repression committed by the government.

Once again, I am lucky. Customs clears me without too much hesitation. The long taxi ride to the hotel gives me a chance to scan the city. The traffic is in its usual state of madness. A toothless old woman is struggling to pull her wooden cart up a hill. The Han River is glistening on this beautiful spring day.

There are also reminders of the other Korea when I get to my hotel. Looking down into the streets, I see a convoy of American military trucks rolling past. The evening news on MBC and KBS TV networks and the newspaper headlines are nothing more than parrots of the government copywriter. An anonymous woman calls to offer me a beautiful "kisaeng" girl. "That won't be necessary." I angrily slap back at her. She continues to insist so I hang up.

I go out into the streets of downtown Seoul for a walk. The sidewalks are bustling. I hop on a bus to head cross town finding my destination (thanks to a rudimentary knowledge of *Hangul*. (The bus system is a cheap alternative to a taxi for the foreigner who can read the *Hangul*.) I notice that construction of the subway expansion is still going on. It seems to be one of the few major projects going on in Seoul that will directly benefit the people and not just the rich or the foreign business interests or the alien military presence.

I meet some friends for a delicious dinner of bibeembap and kimchi. You can't beat the price of 900 won (about ¥330). My visit to Seoul however is not just to enjoy wonderful Korean food. I reveal my agenda to my dinner companions.

They fear I will surely face trouble. Like most Koreans I have met in the ROK, they seem to live in a constant state of paranoia.

Before I tackle what my friends believe will be a dangerous task, I decide to visit Panmunjom again. I ask my Korean friends to come along. They look surprised.

"What's so strange about that invitation?" I ask.

"We're not allowed to go. Korean nationals are forbidden to go to the border", one of them responds.

"What do they think you'll do, run to the other side?" I jokingly ask.

"Perhaps that is what they think", they seriously reply.

Back in Seoul the next day I head for Seoul National University –the scene of many student demonstrations this spring. My friends feared that my visit to S.N.U. would be my downfall. I must admit that the minute I stepped off the bus things didn't look too good.

A couple of rifle bearing soldiers were posted at the gate. I just strolled past them as if this was a typical scene at any university campus I had ever strolled onto.

On campus, it took about a half an hour before I was able to strike up a conversation with a student. His name was Pak, an education major who spoke some English. "Today it's quiet at the university, but underneath there is activity," he said.

I hint that I want to talk about the student underground movement with him. He doesn't trust me much.

"You remember Le Petit Prince?" he asks, "How can I trust you when I've only known you for a few minutes."

He continues never the less, "When we see Americans on campus, we say he is FBI (U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation)".

I laugh and assure Pak that I'm not an FBI agent, CIA, NSA, or representing any other acronym. I do reveal to him that there is a cozy relationship between the U.S. CIA and the KCIA. He says this is nothing new to him.

"You should stay until April 19th that's a big day", he says making reference to April 19, 1960 the day student demonstrations accompanied the downfall of Syngman Rhee.

Pak begins to ask me as many questions as I have for him so we take a stroll across the concrete paved campus that is nestled in the foothills on the outskirts of Seoul. He mentions "coca-colanization", nationalism, and student demonstrations. I am pleasantly surprised by his level of political awareness. Somehow I guess that because of the ban on everything from foreign magazines to books and the state of repression that the students in Korea would be quite naive. But Pak seems to know as much about the true state of the world as any college student I have met anywhere.

We discuss the two students who were arrested at Chungang University for distributing "anti-government poetry." We agree that Korea is probably the only country in the world where students are being arrested for writing poetry in school.

In the technical division building, I meet two more students, Kim and Li. Once again, we are careful in bringing up the subject of politics. First we talk about trivial matters which result in a commitment from Kim to teach me *paduk* (go) and I agree to teach him backgammon.

Our game lessons to each other however become quickly enwrapped in discussions of more serious matters. Kim flat out calls Chun a murderer as his *paduk* stones are forming a house around mine. He says Chun is worse than Pak or Rhee ever were.

A comment that Li makey seems to reflect the underlying commitment that he and other students have to change Korea. He says, "If we students continue to demonstrate this year, we may have to pay with our lives."

I note that these are not radical revolutionaries talking, but 20 year old engineering students.

Li invites me to visit his living quarters. It's a cell room place – Korean style. Cooking is done in an entry way that provides little shelter from the elements. There's no indoor plumbing. I realize the daily hardships a university student in Korea must endure go beyond the political and intellectual repression on the campus itself.

Kim and Li give me copies of leaflets that were secretly passed out in the bathrooms on the university campuses. They also give me a shocking account of what happened on March 19th when a few students decided to publically read such a leaflet. Here is what they recounted to me:

"Just before noon, it was peaceful on campus. We heard a student reading a leaflet on the campus near the student center. Then, another student bearing a torch leaned out of a window in the student center. A crowd quickly gathered to hear the student read the leaflet. As he was about to finish the reading, the undercover agents arrived. The reader would later be arrested, but the agents went after the torchbearer first. They had a fire extinguisher which they doused him with before taking him away to jail."

"At this time, another student had climbed to the fifth floor of the library building. He cried out 'Overthrow Chun Doo Hwan' and other statements. At this time also, about 5,000 to 10,000 students had converged on the acropolis. The students began marching shoulder to shoulder to the administration building, yelling slogans against Chun and the education minister."

"The militia arrived and began shooting tear gas into the crowd. The police also brought with them a gang of thugs, bullies actually. We think they were convicts perhaps. About 10 of them would gang up on a student. They beat them brutally. You could still see blood on the classroom floors in the law building the next day."

"Sixty-eight students were arrested. Hundreds were injured. Many of the injured ones wouldn't go to the hospital because they feared being arrested there."

Their story left me breathless. No, it wasn't of course as serious as Kwangju, in fact it's pretty trivial compared to Kwangju but it was a perfect example of how thorough the Chun regime has become in repressing any type of independent expression no matter how small it is, even if it is one student reading a pamphlet.

It was time to go. I bade Kim and Li cheerwell. I wondered if I would ever see them again. They were young, determined, and afraid. They appeared willing to do what they had said, that is to lay down their life in protest against the murderous regime that is strangling their nation. The day after I left there was another demonstration. The following week another. It seems that throughout Seoul, there are tens of thousands of young people that are just like Kim and Li. That's good news for all Koreans. Good news that I'm happy to write about for a change.

Korea Focus:

Are Americans Reliable Allies?

The controversy brewing in Japan over the stockpiling of nuclear weapons here by the Americans is very interesting and instructive.

The Americans have long kept lying. They claimed they had stored no nuclear weapons in Japan under whatsoever circumstances. This stand has been supported by the Japanese Government.

Yet, the statement by former American envoy to Tokyo Edwin Reischauer and those by former Deputy Undersecretary of State U. Alexis Johnson and former Defense Department analyst Dr. Daniel Ellsberg confirm that the Americans have told lies about the presence of nuclear weapons in Japan. Their statements were described as true by Paul Nitize, former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs.

Dr. Daniel Ellsberg at his May 22 press conference in Washington revealed his '71 memo, disclosing that several dozens of 1.1 megaton hydrogen bombs were kept ready at Iwakuni Marine Air Station as most of American bases in Japan were nuclear attack bases.

He also said the Americans were ready to ignore any opposition from the Japanese Government to the introduction of nuclear weapons.

It has been universally known and confirmed by both Tokyo and Washington that Japan is under the nuclear umbrella of the United States which stations its air force, naval, ground and marine corps units on the island nation. It is a matter of common knowledge that the United States is deploying several thousand nuclear weapons in Western Europe.

Given these facts, it is senseless not to believe that there are American nuclear weapons in Japan. Yet, the mass media have not tried to investigate it and when the American officials disclosed it, they have been taken by surprise.

It must be remembered that the Americans in their use of Japan as a complex of their nuclear attack bases betray their true colors as unreliable and dishonest allies and as totally indifferent to the sentiments and interests of the people of the host country.

Despite the revelations, no editorial or commentary has been published, calling for a thorough investigation of the alleged nuclear presence or removing it, or demanding the government take the Americans to task.

It may be partly true that the disclosures are embarrassing to Washington. However, the case may be that the Americans are very happy with the disclosure and the Japanese reaction to it. Because there has grown no significant anti-bomb sentiment and because the disclosure has rather served to lessen the Japanese nation's long-smouldering sensitivity to nuclear weapons.

Evidence of such scenario is seen in the fact that all the so-called bombshell statements on the nuclear presence concern not the present storage of nuclear weapons but the past, that is, mostly in the 60s. By exposing the Japanese public to a barrage of past stories, the Americans can argue that past is past, while keeping mum about the present deployment or introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan.

If these former American government officials were, entirely free from their government, they should instead try to produce evidence about the present storage of nuclear weapons, that will become real bombshell statements and help to disclose the tricky nature of their government.

A most important sign is their timing obviously in the wake of the publication of the Reagan-Suzuki joint communique which for the first time calls the bilateral relations "an alliance," a political and military alliance.

Therefore, these statements can be interpreted as designed to jolt the Japanese public into taking for granted the American nuclear presence in Japan.

The ramming and sinking of a Japanese freighter by an American nuclear submarine, the cutting of longlines of Japanese fishing boats by American naval crafts and the disclosed American nuclear presence in Japan–these developments are unmistakable proof of what the American connection is like.

The American sincerity is false; American honesty is unfounded. American President Nixon was nicknamed Tricky Dick. Repeating lies reminds us of the notorious tactics of Adolf Hitler.

South Korean Jobless Total 2,000,000, or 15.7 Percent, Parliamentary Interpellator Discloses

An interpellator at the May 12 parliamentary session disclosed the south Korean jobless now total over 2 million, citing the economic planning board's statistics, The Dong-A Ilbo reported on May 13.

Rep. Li Song Su said, according to the board statistics, the jobless rate was 3.2 percent in 1978, rose to 4.1 percent in 1979, reached 5.2 percent in 1980, and currently comprises between 1.5 million and 2 million.

The official jobless rate was 6.3 percent in the fourth quarter of last year, representing 802,000 people, the highest figure since 1967. (The Dong-A Ilbo, March 1).

This means one percent accounting for 127,000 jobless people. On this basis, something between 1.5 million and 2 million represents that between 11.8 percent and 15.7 percent.

In south Korea, the employed people include those who work a mere one hour a week.

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